proposal but it has not yet been opened;

(c) whether Government propose to take immediate action for opening it ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) and (b) The Superintendent of Post Offices had submitted a proposal for opening of a post office at villa Chatriyara. However, on examination in the Office of the Regional Director it was found that the proposal did not satisfy the prescribed norms and has therefore been dropped.

(c) In view of reply to (a) and (b) above the question does not arise.

C. DOT Technology in Telecommunication works

147. SHRI KAPIL VERMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to use C. DOT technology in the expansion of telecommunication works ;

(b) whether Government are also signing agreements with French and American concerns for import of similar technology ; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Yes, Sir. The indigenous technology for Electronic equipment is under development by C. DOT.

(b) There is at present no proposal with the Government to sign agreements with French or American concerns in regard to any new technologies. However, an agreement was signed with the French firm in July, 1982 in respect of digital switching technology before C. DOT was formed. As regards technologies for electronic PABX and electronic rural exchanges, the matter is still under consideration.

(c) Does not arise.

Safety measures in Hazardous Plants in States

148. SHRI KAPIL VERMA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that he has asked the Chief Ministers to take most stringent measures to curb the menace of continuing leakages from chemical plants in their States and ensure that the task of providing safety in the hazardous plants is accorded topmost priority;

(b) what are the latest reports received by the Centre about the leakage position and the safety measures; and

(c) what measures have been taken in respect of plants based on hazardous processors or utilising hazardous chemicals that might have closed down ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO CHEMICALS (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Several State Governments have set up Task Force/Committees for updating information on occupational and health hazardsi and implementation of safety provisions in chemical and other industries using hazardous operation and processes including highly toxic substances.